

2010 2010 Casino Referendum Votes Pass By an Average of Over 78%

On November 2, 2010, by referendum, voters in 14 counties overwhelmingly approved the continued operation of casinos in their communities. Each county passed by a percentage equal if not better than the previous referendum vote in 2002. The average approval was 74% in 2002 as compared to 78.8% in 2010.

Once again, this is a very strong indicator of how the citizens in these counties view their casinos as being a viable part of Iowa's economy, such as:

- Providing thousands of good paying jobs
- Generating an annual economic impact of over \$1 billion
- Positively impacting Iowa businesses by purchasing over \$200 million in Iowa-based products and services
- Funding thousands of charitable request by providing millions of dollars annually in grants
- Continuing to provide highly regulated, legal, safe, fun, and affordable entertainment venues that are committed to responsible gaming

Citizens in counties with gaming facilities are required to vote every 8 years to continue operations. The increased approval for gaming venues begets legislators to re-look at the mandated vote requirement.

The unofficial county by county results are as follows:

Blackhawk

Approved

Yes: 32,752 = 77%

No: 9,941 = 23%

Clayton

Approved

Yes: 5,583 = 82%

No: 1,200 = 18%

Clarke

Approved

Yes: 2,951 = 81%

No: 694 = 19%

Lyon

Approved

Yes: 3,390 = 67%

No: 1,645 = 32%

Palo Alto

Approved

Yes: 3,286 = 86%

No: 554 = 14%

Polk

Approved

Yes: 110,650 = 74%

No: 38,384 = 26%

Clinton*Approved*

Yes: 12,456 = 77%

No: 3,793 = 23%

Des Moines*Approved*

Yes: 10,676 = 74%

No: 3,790 = 26%

Dubuque

Mystique

Approved

Yes: 26,449 = 82%

No: 5,710 = 18%

Diamond Jo

Approved

Yes: 26,118 = 81%

No: 5,972 = 19%

Pottawattamie

Ameristar/Harrahs

Approved

Yes: 20,548 = 80%

No: 5,026 = 20%

Horseshoe

Approved

Yes: 20,476 = 80%

No: 5,090 = 20%

Scott*Approved*

Yes: 39,783 = 74%

No: 13,801 = 26%

Washington*Approved*

Yes: 6,641 = 78%

No: 1,914 = 22%

Woodbury*Approved*

Yes: 22,687 = 77%

No: 6,857 = 23%

Worth*Approved*

Yes: 2,683 = 86%

No: 429 = 14%

Four counties without gaming facilities also held a referendum vote to remain eligible for consideration in the future for a casino license. Only one vote was defeated.

The unofficial results are as follows:

Jackson*Approved*

Yes: 4,528 = 67%

No: 2,145 = 32%

Lee*Approved*

Yes: 8,118 = 72%

No: 3,117 = 28%

Wapello*Failed*

Yes: 5,158 = 48%

No: 5,496 = 52%

Webster*Approved*

Yes: 6,841 = 56%

No: 5,383 = 44%